especially for construction of ocean-going ships.

(b) and (c) The shipbuilding industry has requested Government for extension of subsidy scheme which lapsed in September, 1995 and also to include subsidy for export orders. Their request has been processed and inter-Ministerial consultations are underway.

Grains exported through Indian Ports

536. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total volume of grains exported through Indian Ports in 1995-96;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is delay at ports in export of grains; and

(c) the steps proposed to adopt Indian ports for the efficient export of grains?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) A quantity of 4320124 metric tonnes of grains was exported through Indian Sea Ports during the financial year 1995-96.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Foodgrains exported from Visakhapatnam Port

537. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains exported through Visakhapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh in 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) whether adequate arrangements are there for rice export from Visakhapatnam;

(c) whether it is a fact that long delays are there for rice exports from Visakhapatnam; and

(d) the steps proposed to enhance capacity for foodgrains exports from Visakhapatnam?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) The quantity of foodgrains exported through Visakhapatnam Port during the financial years 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under:—

	(in tonnes)
1994-95	36,689
1995-96	3,86,272

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No need has been felt by the Port for enhancing the capacity for foodgrains export as sufficient facilities are existing.

Financial assistance for development of National Highways during Eighth-Five Year Plan

538. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the fund allotted to different States for construction and development of National Highways during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government of Bihar had sought financial assistance for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details of amount sanctioned to Bihar in that plan period?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) A statement is annexed (*See* below).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Rs. 83.75 crores.